In the Claims

- 1. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising:
- (a) a biologically compatible structural component; and
- (b) a biobeneficial component comprising a copolymer having a biobeneficial or bioactive moiety.
- 2. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the biologically compatible structural component comprises a linear acrylic homopolymer or a linear acrylic copolymer.
- 3. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the copolymer of the biobeneficial component additional has an acrylate moiety.
 - 4. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 1 coated onto an implantable medical device.
- 5. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the mass ratio between the structural component and the biobeneficial component is between about 99:1 and about 1:1.
- 6. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the mass ratio between the structural component and the biobeneficial component is between about 19:1 and about 9:1.
- 7. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the mass ratio between the structural component and the biobeneficial component is about 3:1.
- 8. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 2 wherein the acrylic homopolymer or linear acrylic copolymer has the structure:

- (a) X is hydrogen or methyl group;
- (b) each of R and R₁ is independently methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, iso-butyl, tert-butyl, lauryl, or 2-hydroxyethyl;
- (c) m is a positive integer; and
- (d) n is 0 or a positive integer.
- 9. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 2 wherein the acrylic homopolymer or linear acrylic copolymer is poly(methylmethacrylate), poly(ethylmethacrylate), poly(n-propyl methacrylate), poly(iso-propylmethacrylate), poly(n-butylmethacrylate), poly(n-laurylmethacrylate), poly(2-hydroxyethylmethacrylate), poly(methylmethacrylate-co-2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate), poly(n-butylmethacrylate-co-2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate), or mixtures thereof.
- 10. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the biobeneficial component includes random, block, graft or brush copolymers.
- 11. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 10 wherein the block copolymers include AB-, ABA-, BAB-, ABC-, or ABCBA-block copolymers.
- 12. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the biobeneficial moiety includes fragments derived from poly(alkylene glycols), superoxide dismutate-mimetics (SODm),

diazenium diolate type nitric oxide donors, polycationic peptides, polysaccharides, pyrrolidone, vitamin E, sulfonated dextrane, β -phenoxyethanol, N,N-dimethylamino-2-ethanol, mannose-6-phosphate, sulfonic acid, derivatives of sulfonic acid, or mixtures thereof.

- 13. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 12 wherein the poly(alkylene glycols) are poly(ethylene glycol), poly(propylene glycol), poly(tetramethylene glycol), poly(ethylene glycol), poly(ethylene oxide-co-propylene oxide), or mixtures thereof.
- 14. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 12 wherein the polycationic peptides are poly(L-arginine), poly(D-arginine), poly(D,L-arginine), poly(L-lysine), poly(D-lysine), poly(δ -guanidino- α -aminobutyric acid), a racemic mixture of poly(L-arginine) or poly(D-arginine), or mixtures thereof.
- 15. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 12 wherein the polysaccharides are heparin or derivatives thereof, glycosaminoglycans, keratan sulfate, chondroitin sulfate, dermatan sulfate, hyaluronic acid, hyaluronates, or mixtures thereof.
- 16. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 15 wherein the derivatives of heparin are heparinoids, heparin having a hydrophobic counterion, heparan sulfate, heparin salts, or mixtures thereof.
- 17. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 16 wherein the heparin salts are sodium heparin, potassium heparin, lithium heparin, calcium heparin, magnesium heparin, adrenalin sodium, or mixtures thereof.
- 18. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 12 wherein the derivatives of sulfonic acid are propanesulfonic acid, 2-methyl-1-propanesulfonic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, 3-methoxy-2-hydroxypropanesulfonic acid, or mixtures thereof.

- 19. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 3 wherein the mass ratio between the acrylate moiety and the biobeneficial moiety is between about 99:1 and about 1:1. o
- 20. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 3 wherein the mass ratio between the acrylate moiety and the biobeneficial moiety is between about 19:1 and about 9:1
- 21. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 3 wherein the mass ratio between the acrylate moiety and the biobeneficial moiety is about 3:1.
- 22. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the copolymer composing the biobeneficial component has the formula:

- (a) m_1 , n_1 , p_1 , r_1 , m_2 , n_2 , p_2 , and r_2 are all integers;
- (b) $m_1 \ge 0$, $n_1 > 0$, $p_1 \ge 0$, $r_1 > 0$; $m_2 \ge 0$, $n_2 > 0$, $p_2 \ge 0$, $r_2 > 0$; and

(c)

- (i) if $m_1 = 0$, then $p_1 > 0$;
- (ii) if $p_1 = 0$, then $m_1 > 0$; and

- (iii) if $m_2 = 0$, then $p_2 > 0$; and
- (iv) if $p_2 = 0$, then $m_2 > 0$; and
- (v) r_1 and r_2 are the same or different;
- (vi) m_1 and m_2 are the same or different;
- (vii) n_1 and n_2 are the same or different; and
- (viii) p_1 and p_2 are the same or different;
- (d) X is hydrogen or methyl group;
- (e) each of R and R₁, independently, is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, iso-butyl, tert-butyl, lauryl, or 2-hydroxyethyl; and
- (f) Q is a fragment providing the copolymer with biobeneficial or bioactive properties.
- 23. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the copolymer composing the biobeneficial component is poly(ethylene glycol)-block-poly(n-butylmethacrylate)-block-poly(ethylene glycol), poly(n-butylmethacrylate)-block-poly(ethylene glycol)-block-poly(n-butylmethacrylate), or mixtures thereof.
- 24. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the biobeneficial component includes a random, block, graft or brush copolymer comprising:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
-CH_2-CX-\\
\hline
COOR
\end{array}$$
(a) at least one of ; and

- (c) X is hydrogen or methyl group;
- (d) R is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, iso-butyl, tert-butyl, lauryl, or 2-hydroxyethyl; and
- (e) Q is a fragment providing the copolymer with biobeneficial properties.
- 25. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 24 wherein the biobeneficial component

$$\begin{array}{c}
- \left[CH_2 - CX - \right] \\
Q_2
\end{array}$$

copolymer further comprises at least one of

wherein Q_2 is a fragment providing the copolymer with biobeneficial or bioactive properties provided that Q_2 is different from Q.

- 26. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 24 wherein Q is derived from poly(alkylene glycols), superoxide dismutate-mimetics (SODm), diazenium diolate type nitric oxide donors, polycationic peptides, polysaccharides, pyrrolidone, vitamin E, sulfonated dextrane, β -phenoxyethanol, N,N-dimethylamino-2-ethanol, mannose-6-phosphate, sulfonic acid, derivatives of sulfonic acid, or mixtures thereof.
- 27. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 26 wherein the polycationic peptides are poly(L-arginine), poly(D-arginine), poly(D,L-arginine), poly(L-lysine), poly(D-lysine), poly(δ -guanidino- α -aminobutyric acid), a racemic mixture of poly(L-arginine) or poly(D-arginine), or mixtures of these.
- 28. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 26 wherein the polysaccharides are heparin or derivatives thereof, glycosaminoglycans, keratan sulfate, chondroitin sulfate, dermatan sulfate, hyaluronic acid, hyaluronates, or blends thereof.
- 29. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 26 wherein the derivatives of heparin are heparinoids, heparin having a hydrophobic counterion, heparan sulfate, heparin salts, or mixtures thereof.
- 30. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 26 wherein the derivatives of sulfonic acid are propanesulfonic acid, 2-methyl-1-propanesulfonic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, 3-methoxy-2-hydroxypropanesulfonic acid, or mixtures thereof.
- 31. (Original) A medical article comprising an implantable medical device and a coating deposited on at least a part of the device, the coating including:
 - (a) a structural component comprising a linear acrylic homopolymer or linear acrylic copolymer; and

- (b) a biobeneficial component comprising a copolymer having an acrylate moiety and a biobeneficial moiety.
- 32. (Original) The medical article of Claim 31 wherein the implantable medical device is a stent.
- 33. (Original) The medical article of Claim 31 wherein the mass ratio between the structural component and the biobeneficial component is between about 99:1 and about 1:1.
- 34. (Original) The medical article of Claim 31 wherein the mass ratio between the structural component and the biobeneficial component is between about 19:1 and about 9:1.
- 35. (Original) The medical article of Claim 31 wherein the mass ratio between the structural component and the biobeneficial component is about 3:1.
- 36. (Original) The medical article of Claim 31 wherein the acrylic homopolymer and linear acrylic copolymer have the structure:

- (a) X is hydrogen or methyl group;
- (b) each of R and R₁ is independently methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, iso-butyl, tert-butyl, lauryl, or 2-hydroxyethyl;
- (c) m is a positive integer; and

- (d) n is 0 or a positive integer.
- 37. (Original) The medical article of Claim 31 wherein the acrylic homopolymer or linear acrylic copolymer are poly(methylmethacrylate), poly(ethylmethacrylate), poly(n-propyl methacrylate), poly(iso-propylmethacrylate), poly(n-butylmethacrylate), poly(n-laurylmethacrylate), poly(2-hydroxyethylmethacrylate), poly(methylmethacrylate-co-2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate), poly(n-butylmethacrylate-co-2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate), or mixtures thereof.
- 38. (Original) The medical article of Claim 31 wherein the biobeneficial component includes random, block, graft or brush copolymers.
- 39. (Original) The medical article of Claim 38 wherein the block copolymers include AB-, ABA-, BAB-, ABC-, or ABCBA-block copolymers.
- 40. (Original) The medical article of Claim 31 wherein the biobeneficial moiety includes fragments derived from poly(alkylene glycols), superoxide dismutate-mimetics (SODm), diazenium diolate type nitric oxide donors, polycationic peptides, polysaccharides, pyrrolidone, vitamin E, sulfonated dextrane, β -phenoxyethanol, N,N-dimethylamino-2-ethanol, mannose-6-phosphate, sulfonic acid, derivatives of sulfonic acid, or mixtures thereof.
- 41. (Original) The medical article of Claim 40 wherein the poly(alkylene glycols) are poly(ethylene glycol), poly(propylene glycol), poly(tetramethylene glycol), poly(ethylene glycol-co-propylene glycol), poly(ethylene oxide-co-propylene oxide), or mixtures thereof.
- 42. (Original) The medical article of Claim 40 wherein the polycationic peptides are poly(L-arginine), poly(D-arginine), poly(D,L-arginine), poly(L-lysine), poly(D-lysine), poly(δ -guanidino- α -aminobutyric acid), a racemic mixture of poly(L-arginine) or poly(D-arginine), or mixtures thereof.

- 43. (Original) The medical article of Claim 40 wherein the polysaccharides are heparin or derivatives thereof, glycosaminoglycans, keratan sulfate, chondroitin sulfate, dermatan sulfate, hyaluronic acid, hyaluronates, or mixtures thereof.
- 44. (Original) The medical article of Claim 43 wherein the derivatives of heparin are heparinoids, heparin having a hydrophobic counterion, heparan sulfate, heparin salts, or mixtures thereof.
- 45. (Original) The medical article of Claim 44 wherein the heparin salts are sodium heparin, potassium heparin, lithium heparin, calcium heparin, magnesium heparin, ardeparin sodium, or mixtures thereof.
- 46. (Original) The medical article of Claim 40 wherein the derivatives of sulfonic acid are propanesulfonic acid, 2-methyl-1-propanesulfonic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, 3-methoxy-2-hydroxypropanesulfonic acid, or mixtures thereof.
- 47. (Original) The medical article of Claim 31 wherein the mass ratio between the acrylate moiety and the biobeneficial moiety is between about 99:1 and about 1:1.
- 48. (Original) The medical article of Claim 31 wherein the mass ratio between the acrylate moiety and the biobeneficial moiety is between about 19:1 and about 9:1
- 49. (Original) The medical article of Claim 31 wherein the mass ratio between the acrylate moiety and the biobeneficial moiety is about 3:1.
- 50. (Original) The medical article of Claim 31 wherein the copolymer composing the biobeneficial component has the formula:

- (a) m_1 , n_1 , p_1 , r_1 , m_2 , n_2 , p_2 , and r_2 are all integers;
- (b) $m_1 \ge 0$, $n_1 > 0$, $p_1 \ge 0$, $r_1 > 0$; $m_2 \ge 0$, $n_2 > 0$, $p_2 \ge 0$, $r_2 > 0$; and

(c)

- (i) if $m_1 = 0$, then $p_1 > 0$;
- (ii) if $p_1 = 0$, then $m_1 > 0$; and
- (iii) if $m_2 = 0$, then $p_2 > 0$; and
- (iv) if $p_2 = 0$, then $m_2 > 0$; and
- (v) r_1 and r_2 are the same or different;
- (vi) m_1 and m_2 are the same or different;
- (vii) n_1 and n_2 are the same or different; and
- (viii) p_1 and p_2 are the same or different;

- (d) X is hydrogen or methyl group;
- (e) each of R and R₁, independently, is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, iso-butyl, tert-butyl, lauryl, or 2-hydroxyethyl; and
- (f) Q is a fragment providing the copolymer with biobeneficial properties.
- 51. (Original) The medical article of Claim 31 wherein the copolymer composing the biobeneficial component is poly(ethylene glycol)-block-poly(n-butylmethacrylate)-block-poly(ethylene glycol), or poly(n-butylmethacrylate)-block-poly(ethylene glycol)-block-poly(n-butylmethacrylate).
- 52. (Original) The medical article of Claim 31 wherein the biobeneficial component includes a random, block, graft or brush copolymer composed of:

(c) X is hydrogen or methyl group;

- (d) R is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, iso-butyl, tert-butyl, lauryl, or 2-hydroxyethyl; and
- (e) O is a fragment providing the copolymer with biobeneficial properties.
- 53. (Original) The composition of Claim 52 wherein Q is derived from poly(alkylene glycols), superoxide dismutate-mimetics (SODm), diazenium diolate type nitric oxide donors, polycationic peptides, polysaccharides, pyrrolidone, vitamin E, sulfonated dextrane, β -phenoxyethanol, N,N-dimethylamino-2-ethanol, mannose-6-phosphate, sulfonic acid, derivatives of sulfonic acid, or mixtures thereof.
- 54. (Original) The composition of Claim 53 wherein the polycationic peptides are poly(L-arginine), poly(D-arginine), poly(D,L-arginine), poly(L-lysine), poly(D-lysine), poly(δ -guanidino- α -aminobutyric acid), a racemic mixture of poly(L-arginine) or poly(D-arginine), or mixtures thereof.
- 55. (Original) The composition of Claim 53 wherein the polysaccharides are heparin or derivatives thereof, glycosaminoglycans, keratan sulfate, chondroitin sulfate, dermatan sulfate, hyaluronic acid, hyaluronates, or mixtures thereof.
- 56. (Original) The composition of Claim 53 wherein the derivatives of heparin are heparinoids, heparin having a hydrophobic counterion, heparan sulfate, heparin salts, or mixtures thereof.
- 57. (Original) The composition of Claim 53 wherein the derivatives of sulfonic acid are propanesulfonic acid, 2-methyl-1-propanesulfonic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, 3-methoxy-2-hydroxypropanesulfonic acid, or mixtures thereof.
- 58. (Withdrawn) A method for fabricating a medical article comprising depositing a polymeric blend comprising:

- (a) a biologically compatible structural component; and
- (b) a biobeneficial component comprising a copolymer having a biobeneficial or bioactive moiety.

on at least a portion of the implantable medical device to form a coating.

- 59. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58 wherein the implantable medical device is a stent.
- 60. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58 wherein the mass ratio between the structural component and the biobeneficial component is between about 99:1 and about 1:1.
- 61. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58 wherein the mass ratio between the structural component and the biobeneficial component is between about 19:1 and about 9:1.
- 62. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58 wherein the mass ratio between the structural component and the biobeneficial component is about 3:1.
- 63. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58 wherein the acrylic homopolymer or linear acrylic copolymer have the structure:

wherein

(a) X is hydrogen or methyl group;

- (b) each of R and R₁ is independently methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, iso-butyl, tert-butyl, lauryl, or 2-hydroxyethyl;
- (c) m is a positive integer; and
- (d) n is 0 or a positive integer.
- 64. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58 wherein the acrylic homopolymer and linear acrylic copolymer are synthesized by polymerizing monomers selected from a group consisting of methylmethacrylate, ethylmethacrylate, n-propyl methacrylate, iso-propylmethacrylate, n-butylmethacrylate, n-laurylmethacrylate, 2-hydroxyethylmethacrylate, and mixtures thereof.
- 65. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58 wherein the step of preparing the polymeric blend includes synthesizing the biobeneficial random, block, graft or brush copolymers.
- 66. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 65 wherein the block copolymers include AB-, ABA-, BAB-, ABC-, or ABCBA-block copolymers.
- 67. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 65 wherein the step of synthesizing the block copolymers includes copolymerizing an acrylate and a biobeneficial monomer by a method of living, free-radical copolymerization with initiation-transfer agent termination of the living macro chains.
- 68. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 67 wherein the acrylate is methylmethacrylate, ethylmethacrylate, n-propyl methacrylate, iso-propylmethacrylate, n-butylmethacrylate, n-laurylmethacrylate, 2-hydroxyethylmethacrylate, or mixtures thereof.
- 69. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 67 wherein the biobeneficial monomer includes acryloyl-, methacryloyl-, vinyl, or allyl-modified adducts of superoxide dismutate-mimetics;

acryloyl-, methacryloyl-, vinyl, or allyl-modified diazenium diolate type nitric oxide donors; or acryloyl-, methacryloyl-, vinyl, or allyl-modified polycationic peptides.

- 70. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 67 wherein the biobeneficial monomer is 2-acrylamido-2-methyl-1-propanesulfonic acid, poly(ethylene glycol) methacrylate, 3-sulfopropyl acrylate, 3-sulfopropyl acrylate methacrylate, N-vinylpyrrolidone, vinyl sulfonic acid, 4-styrene sulfonic acid, or 3-allyloxy-2-hydroxypropanesulfonic acid.
- 71. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58 wherein the biobeneficial moiety includes fragments derived from poly(alkylene glycols), superoxide dismutate-mimetics (SODm), diazenium diolate type nitric oxide donors, polycationic peptides, polysaccharides, pyrrolidone, vitamin E, sulfonated dextrane, β -phenoxyethanol, N,N-dimethylamino-2-ethanol, mannose-6-phosphate, sulfonic acid, derivatives of sulfonic acid, or mixtures thereof.
- 72. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 71 wherein the poly(alkylene glycols) are poly(ethylene glycol), poly(propylene glycol), poly(tetramethylene glycol), poly(ethylene glycol), poly(ethylene oxide-co-propylene oxide), or mixtures thereof.
- 73. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 71 wherein the polycationic peptides are poly(L-arginine), poly(D-arginine), poly(D-L-arginine), poly(D-lysine), poly(D-lysine), poly(δ -guanidino- α -aminobutyric acid), a racemic mixture of poly(L-arginine) or poly(D-arginine), or mixtures thereof.
- 74. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 71 wherein the polysaccharides are heparin, heparin derivatives, glycosaminoglycans, keratan sulfate, chondroitin sulfate, dermatan sulfate, hyaluronic acid, hyaluronates, or mixtures thereof.
- 75. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 74 wherein the derivatives of heparin are heparinoids, heparin having a hydrophobic counterion, heparan sulfate, heparin salts, or mixtures thereof.

- 76. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 75 wherein the heparin salts are sodium heparin, potassium heparin, lithium heparin, calcium heparin, magnesium heparin, ardeparin sodium, or mixtures thereof.
- 77. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 71 wherein the derivatives of sulfonic acid are propanesulfonic acid, 2-methyl-1-propanesulfonic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, 3-methoxy-2-hydroxypropane sulfonic acid, or mixtures thereof.
- 78. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58 wherein the mass ratio between the acrylate moiety and the biobeneficial moiety is between about 99:1 and about 1:1.
- 79. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58 wherein the mass ratio between the acrylate moiety and the biobeneficial moiety is between about 19:1 and about 9:1
- 80. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58 wherein the mass ratio between the acrylate moiety and the biobeneficial moiety is about 3:1.
- 81. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58 wherein the copolymer comprising the biobeneficial component has the formula:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c|c} CH_2 - CX & CH_2 - CX \\ \hline COOR & m_1 & CH_2 - CX \\ \hline A units & B units & C units \\ \end{array} \right\}_{r_1} \left\{ \begin{array}{c|c} CH_2 - CX & CH_2 - CX \\ \hline COOR & m_2 & COOR_2 \\ \hline A units & B units & C units \\ \end{array} \right\}_{r_2} \left\{ \begin{array}{c|c} CH_2 - CX & CH_2 - CX \\ \hline COOR_2 & D_2 \\ \hline COOR_3 & COOR_4 \\ \hline COOR_4 & COOR_4 \\ \hline COOR_5 & COOR_5 \\ \hline COOR_$$

- (a) m_1 , n_1 , p_1 , r_1 , m_2 , n_2 , p_2 , and r_2 are all integers;
- (b) $m_1 \ge 0$, $n_1 > 0$, $p_1 \ge 0$, $r_1 > 0$; $m_2 \ge 0$, $n_2 > 0$, $p_2 \ge 0$, $r_2 > 0$; and

(c)

- (i) if $m_1 = 0$, then $p_1 > 0$;
- (ii) if $p_1 = 0$, then $m_1 > 0$; and
- (iii) if $m_2 = 0$, then $p_2 > 0$; and
- (iv) if $p_2 = 0$, then $m_2 > 0$; and
- (v) r_1 and r_2 are the same or different;
- (vi) m_1 and m_2 are the same or different;
- (vii) n_1 and n_2 are the same or different; and
- (viii) p_1 and p_2 are the same or different;
- (d) X is hydrogen or methyl group;
- (e) each of R and R₁, independently, is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, iso-butyl, tert-butyl, lauryl, or 2-hydroxyethyl; and
- (f) Q is a fragment providing the copolymer with biobeneficial properties.
- 82. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 58 wherein the copolymer comprising the biobeneficial component is poly(ethylene glycol)-block-poly(n-butylmethacrylate)-block-poly(ethylene glycol), poly(n-butylmethacrylate)-block-poly(ethylene glycol)-block-poly(n-butylmethacrylate), or mixtures thereof.